

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02065 112025Z

43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 035229

P 111504Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9775

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 2065

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET OFFICIALS COMMENT ON US-SOVIET RELATIONS

1. AT SPASO LUNCHEON FEB. 10 FOR SENATOR BROOKE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMENTATOR YURI ZHUKOV MENTIONED TO ME HIS CONCERN THAT US MEDIA HAD SPREAD STORIES ABOUT NSC MEETING ALLEGEDLY HELD DURING SECRETARY'S RECENT MOSCOW VISIT, HIS "RECALL" TO WASHINGTON, ETC. ZHUKOV SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE SUCH TALES, ALTHOUGH THEY CAUSED SOME CONCERN HERE AS TO RELIABILITY OF US NEGOTIATING POSITIONS.

2. ZHUKOV SAID HE WOULD BE APPEARING ON TV NEXT SATURDAY EVENING TO COMMENT ON THE WORLD SCENE. HE INDICATED HE WOULD BE UPBEAT ON SALT AND GENERAL CONCEPT OF DETENTE. ANGOLA WAS A "DIFFICULT" PROBLEM, HE SAID, AND US AND SOVIET VIEWS OBVIOUSLY DIFFERED SHARPLY ABOUT IT. HE SAID HE WOULD MAKE THESE DIFFERENCES VERY CLEAR.

3. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH ARBATOV, DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTE OF US AND CANADIAN STUDIES, HE SAID THE US HAS "REALLY BECOME A DIFFICULT PARTNER" FOR THE SOVIET UNION. HE CITED THE LANGUAGE USED IN THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH IN SAN FRANCISCO ON "CONTAINMENT", SAYING HE FOUND THIS ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR PRESENT RELATIONSHIP. THE VIEWS OF THE SECRETARY AND THE PRESIDENT ON ANGOLA WERE ALSO SURPRISING. ARBATOV THOUGHT THE US STANCE MUST BE MOTIVATED BY DOMESTIC
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 02065 112025Z

POLITICAL CONCERNS, SINCE HE COULD SEE NO OTHER LOGICAL

EXPLANTION FOR IT. (COMMENT: THIS IS BECOMING A
FAIRLY STANDARD LINE ON PART OF SOVIET OFFICIALS).

4. I NOTED THAT THE SECRETARY HAD EXPLAINED OUR VIEWS ON
ANGOLA IN DETAIL TO BREZHNEV AND GROMYKO WHEN HE WAS IN
MOSCOW AND THE SOVIETS COULD BE UNDER NO APPREHENSIONS
ABOUT THE DEPTH OF OUR FEELING SON ANGOLA. WHEN I MENTIONED
THE USE OF CUBAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA AS ONE ELEMENT OF OUR
CONCERN, ARBATOV SAID HE COULD UNDERSTAND US "SENSITIVITIES"
ON THIS, BUT HE MAINTAINED THE MATTER HAD BEEN INFLATED
OUT OF ALL PROPORTION.

5. ON THE PARTY CONGRESS, ARBATOV SAID HE HAD BEEN WORKING
WITH BREZHNEV AT ZAVIDOVO RECENTLY ON GENERAL SECRETARY'S
SPEECH. LATTER IS NOW VIRTUALLY COMPLETED EXCEPT FOR SOME
FINAL RETOUCHING. AS REPORTED SEPTEL, ARBATOV SAID HE
EXPECTED NO SURPRISES DURING CONGRESS IN TERMS OF POLICY
OR PERSONNEL CHANGES, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT EXCLUDE SOME
OF LATTER. HE THOUGHT, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WOULD NOT
AFFECT THE "CENTRAL LEADERSHIP GROUP".
STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DETENTE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW02065
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760052-0428
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760260/aaaacagv.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET OFFICIALS COMMENT ON US-SOVIET RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, US, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006